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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Second Meeting of the ECA Joint
Intergovernmental Regional Committee
on Human Settlements and Environment

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 22-26 July 1985

LC/NAIROBI

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Opening of the Meeting (item 1)

The opening of the meeting will take place at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, 22 July 1985 at ECA Africa Hall, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. A Senior Minister of the Government of Revolutionary Socialist Ethiopia will deliver a welcoming opening address. The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Acting Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Executive Director of United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) will deliver opening statements.

2. Election of officers (item 2)

In conformity with the rules and procedures, there shall be elected a Chairman, three Vice-chairmen and a Rapporteur, each representing a subregion in Africa. Information on countries that have held offices during the past sessions, including the period prior to the formation of the Joint Committee, is given under paragraph 3 of E/ECA/IGRC/HS/ENV/85/III/INF.4.

3. Adoption of the Agenda and organization of Work (item 3)

The Chairman will draw the attention of the meeting to the Provisional Agenda (E/ECA/IGRC/HS/ENV/85/III/INF.1) for adoption. The provisional Programme of Work (E/ECA/IGRC/HS/ENV/85/III/INF.3) prepared by the Secretariat, will then be considered for adoption, taking note of the precedence for two sub-committees: one to consider human settlements, and the other dealing with environmental matters. After the presentation of all the papers at plenary session, the meeting will break into the two sub-committees for discussions and meet again at plenary to consider the sub-committee reports and recommendations.

4. Human Settlements (item 4)

(a) Progress report on the implementation of activities in the field of human settlements during the biennium 1982-1983 (document E/ECA/HUS/III). The document gives an overview of the main activities undertaken by the Secretariat during the period February 1984 to

June 1985 with regard to the resolutions on human settlements matters adopted by the Joint Committee at its first meeting and approved by the ECA Conference of Ministers at its tenth meeting. The Joint Committee is called upon, in the document, to seriously consider the mobilization of additional funds for the implementation of human settlements programmes.

(b) Consideration of a human settlements policy in Africa: Land tenne problems in urban areas and a housing programme for the largest number of people (E/ECA/HUS/12). It is emphasized in this document that human settlement planning cannot be done without sound soil husbandary. If necessary measures for tapping the soil resources are non-existent or insufficient, speculation on the land to be urbanized can slow down or hamper the development of human settlements. It is proposed in this documnt a number of measured to be taken at the national and international levels to resolve land holding problems within the framework of a human settlements policy.

(c) Development of decentralized systems of the production of building materials (E/ECA/HUS/13 and 14) The objective of this study is to develop research areas, to encourage and help African countries to increase their capabilities of promoting the growt of the construction industry. This document give an indication of some solutions for improving the supply and distribution of low cost construction materials.

(d) Revision of codes and building regulations in Africa (E/ECA/HUS/15). This study outlines propositions as a practical basis for drawing up new national rules and regulations for construction. These rules and regulations contribute in responding to national needs in matters of building construction.

(e) Guidelines and indicator for the production of co-operative housing, self-help housing and other forms of public participation (E/ECA/HUS/16). This study tries to demonstrate that only co-operative housing and self-help housing policies can be the appropriate solution to housing for a great number of people. The study brings out a certain number of administrative and financial measure as well as research to establish structures that will contribute to the development a system of low-cost housing.

(f) Report of the expert group meeting on guidelines and indicators for the elaboration of national models for the planning of human settlements integrated with social and economic development (E/ECA/HUS/17).

5. Environmental matters (item 5)

(a) Progress Report on Environmental Matters including long-term measures for Combating Drought and Desertification (document E/ECA/ENV/18). This document reviews the activities carried out by the Environment Section since the last meeting of the Joint Committee and proposes areas where the Environment Section would like to have the guidance of the Joint Committee for the 1986-1987 programme of work.

(b) Report of ECA/UNEP Training Workshop for the Incorporation of Environmental Components into the Training Programmes of ECA-sponsored Institutions (document E/ECA/ENV/19). This document is a progress report regarding the ECA/UNEP project relative to incorporating environmental education and training into the existing training programmes of eleven (11) ECA-sponsored institutions.

(c) Report of ECA/ARSO Expert Group Meeting on the Establishment and/or Improvement of National Standards for the Protectinn of the African Environment (document E/ECA/ENV/20). The report introduces guidelines for developing environmentll standards in Africa as discussed at the expert group meeting.

(d) Review of National Environmental Legislation and ECA/OAU Technical Co-operation for the Implementation of Conventions and Protocols on the Environment (document E/ECA/ENV/21). Review of National Environmental Legislation and ECA/OAU Technical Co-operation for the Implementation of Clnventions and Protocols on the Environment (doc. E/ECA/ENV/21) is a project proposal following up on the last ECA/UNEP joint project on Development of Environmental Protection Legislation in the ECH region executed by ECA between 1979 and 1982. This new proposal aims to promote and strengthen technical co-operation among and between African states to re-inforce their national capabilities to ratify and implement international and regional agreements on the environment.

(e) Environment in Africa Work Programme for the 1986-1987 biennium(for information) (document E/ECA/ENV/12) is in three parts: the first part deals with the implementation of the work programme for the current biennium 1984-1985, the second part deals with the proposals for the next biennium 1986-1987 and its harmonization with the UNEP System-Wide Medium-Term Environment Programme (SWMTEP) Budget Proposals for the same period 1986-1987) as it affects the Africa region, in the third part.

6. Any other business

The meeting may wish to discuss any other related matters, such as provisional agenda, date and venue of h. next meeting of the Joint Committee (IGRC/HUS/ENV).

7. Adoption of the report and Closure of the meeting (item 7)

The meeting will discuss and adopt the draft report at plenary, prepared and presented by the Rapporteur with the assistance of the sub-committees' rapporteurs and the Secretariat. The meeting will be formally closed by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa or his representative.